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Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC)

Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) Update

February 20, 2015

Since the February 6th news release, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has received confirmation that one additional horse in Galveston County contracted the neuropathogenic strain of the Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1). The total number of confirmed cases stands at three. One horse had respiratory signs and has recovered while another one is recovering from neurologic signs. There currently remains one confirmed death due to EHV-1 at the stables.

At this time, investigative work has concluded and there is no indication the virus has spread beyond the two stables that remain under quarantine. No new cases of EHV-1 have been confirmed or suspected at either stable since February 9th. No connection between the stables has been established.

Quarantines on the individual stables may be lifted when all criteria are met: Biosecurity measures are in place, and no new cases are detected through regular monitoring of all horses for a prescribed period of time.

The TAHC continues to stress the importance of proper biosecurity. For more information on how to protect your equine, visit:

http://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/USDABrochure_EquineBiosecurity.pdf

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